

## MELASTOMATACEAE – MELASTOME FAMILY

**Plant:** herbs, vines, shrubs or trees

**Stem:** sometimes 4-sided or even winged

**Root:**

**Leaves:** mostly opposite, rarely whorled, simple, entire; with stipules

**Flowers:** perfect or imperfect (dioecious), mostly regular; 4-5-7 sepals and petals, bracts may be colored; 4 to many stamens; ovary superior or inferior, 1 style and 1 stigma, few to many ovules

**Fruit:** capsule or berry, many seeds

**Other:** Dicotyledons Group

**Genera:** 180+ genera

## MELASTOMATACEAE – MELASTOME FAMILY

Maryland Meadowbeauty; *Rhexia mariana* L.

Meadow Beauty [Handsome Harry]; *Rhexia virginica* L.

# Maryland Meadowbeauty

*Rhexia mariana* L.

Melastomataceae (Melastome Family)

Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge,

White County, Arkansas

Notes: 4-petaled flower, light purple to white;  
leaves lanceolate, with petiole; fruiting capsule  
neck as long or longer than the rounded body;  
stem not winged; plant with very long hairs;  
summer to early fall

[V Max Brown, 2007]



# Meadow Beauty [Handsome Harry]

*Rhexia virginica* L.

Melastomataceae (Melastome Family)

Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, Iron County,  
Missouri

Notes: 4-petaled flower, rose purple; leaves ovate to lanceolate;  
fruiting capsule neck as long or usually shorter than the  
rounded body; stem with well developed wings;  
plant with long hairs; likes acid soils; summer to fall

[V Max Brown, 2010]

